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Merchant & Gould

An Intellectual Property Law Firm

3200 IDS Center
80 South Eighth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota
55402-2215 USA
TEL 612.332.5300
FAX 612.332.9081
www.merchant-gould.com

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TO: Commissioner for
Patents
Attn: Examiner M. DAVIS.
Patent Examining Corps
Facsimile Center - TC1600
Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: John J. Gresens

OUR REF: 7885.65US01
TELEPHONE: 612.371.5265

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Title of Document Transmitted:

AMENDMENT & DECLARATION

Applicant: FODSTAD et al.

Serial No.: 09/331,376

Filed: JUNE 18, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1642

Our Ref. No.: 7885.65USWO

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PATENT

S/N 09/331,376

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	FODSTAD et al.	Examiner:	Davis, M.
Serial No.:	09/331,376	Group Art Unit:	1642
Filed:	June 18, 1999	Docket No.:	7885.65USWO
Title:	METHOD FOR CHARACTERIZATION OF ABNORMAL CELLS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the paper(s), as described herein, are being transmitted via facsimile to: TC1600 Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 8, 2002

By:

Michael J. Quaranto

AMENDMENT

Box NON FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 9, 2002, please amend the above-referenced patent application as indicated herein.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 10, and 13, and add new claim 17 as follows. In accordance with rule changes to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a clean version of the amended claims is presented below. In addition, enclosed herewith is an attachment of a marked up copy with the revisions to the claims shown.

1. (Thrice Amended) Method to detect and phenotype target cells in cell suspensions by using particles coated with antibodies directed against antigenic determinants/receptors expressed on the target cells, wherein 2 to 6 antibodies, each conjugated to a particle, wherein the particle is a fluorescent or dyed particle, are incubated under gentle rotation for about 5 minutes to about 2 hours with cell suspensions containing the target cells at 0°C to 25°C, followed by an enrichment procedure, and evaluation of the target cell rosettes microscopically and/or by suitable visualizing or imaging devices, wherein the cells are evaluated while in suspension, and wherein